

BIRTH CERTIFICATE
LEADS TO CLASH OF
BANCROFT LAWYERSWoman Signed It, Naming
Child "Max Heibler, Jr.,"
Husband's Counsel Alleges.LETTERS ALSO FOUGHT
BY WIFE'S ATTORNEYSSixty-nine Missives Kept From
Record Temporarily, but Sis-
ter's Note Is Admitted.

PHYSICIANS TAKE STAND

Many Testify Second Son of Mrs. Ban-
croft, Jr., Is a Normal Child—
Defence Experts in Readiness.Where Classified News
Is Placed To-Day.

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500 IN PANIC FIGHT
TO ESCAPE FROM
BLAZING 'L' TRAINMen and Women Leap Out of
Car Windows at West 116th
Street Station.MOTOR BOX EXPLOSION
SPREADS TERRORWind Sweeps Flames Around Pas-
sengers Crowded on Platform
Fifty-Five Feet in Air.

SECOND TRAIN IS IGNITED

Policemen Drive Crowd to Street Be-
fore Fire Spreads to Station, Causing
\$6,000 Damage and Blocking Traffic.John J. McDevitt, 'Millionaire for a Day,' Arrives
on Special Train; Is Willing to Walk BackAll Wilkesbarre Turns Out to
Witness Departure and
Shower of Coins.WANTS AN IRISHMAN
TO RUN THE TRAINFull of hot house grapes, night blooming
artichokes, pears of goldfish and a lot of
other stylish food, John Jay McDevitt,
one of the first citizens of Wilkesbarre,
Pa., as you drive in, planted his car
head on a silver pillow in room No. 449,
at the Waldorf-Astoria at an early hour
this morning, having realized his ambition
to live like a millionaire for at least one
day. Mr. McDevitt came to town last
night on board a special train whichweakened his wad to the extent of \$18.
Before inserting himself beneath the
mother of pearl bedspread he was making
inquiries as to the price of a handcar for
the return trip.His physical and financial condition at
the hour of going to press was summed
up in this brief bulletin issued by Dr.
Edward A. Sweeney, his private physician,
especially engaged for the trip at a
stipend of \$500. Determined that Dr.
Sweeney should earn his money, McDevitt
made the physician hang on to both his
wrists, for the purpose of taking soundings,
every inch of the 155 miles. When Mc-
Devitt took the notion, which was about
every mile, he had Dr. Sweeney plant the
stethoscope against his heart to see if
the ticker was working properly.

"I don't like to overlook you, doc," ex-

plained McDevitt, "but I never could
afford to have a stethoscope examination
before, and I understand it to be the
proper caper with men of great wealth."Taxicab Lands First Blow.
Only once during the remarkable cam-
paign to get rid of his money as quickly
as possible did the transient millionaire
show signs of fraying at the fenders.
This was when he took a taxicab from
the hotel to George M. Cohan's Theatre,
last night. When he saw the indicator
jump from fifty cents to a dollar, to a
dollar and a half, to two dollars, he ad-
mitted that it wouldn't take many such rides
to put him back on a bean diet in a hurry.
When the taxicab drew up at the theatre
and the register showed \$3.10, McDevitt
had to be supported or he would have
collapsed. His heart was pulling 115 strokesto the minute, and it was with difficulty
that he recovered sufficiently to slip a
dollar bill to the carriage man.He shied at taxicabs after that, and they
had to blindfold him to get him back to the
hotel. As a token of his regard he pre-
sented Mr. Cohan with a chunk of hard
coal bearing the actor's name.If McDevitt isn't able to scratch his head
a considerable distance back of his hat
this morning and if he isn't aching in
every part it is not the fault of the scores
of strange things he ate and drank and
smoked or the thousands of persons who
salpined him on the back, patted him on
the head and wrung both his hands until
they hung limp and lifeless at his side.When he became wealthy, beyond his
wildest dreams, a few months ago by
agreeing to get off the Luzerne county
democratic ticket because the party man-
agers thought thirteen Irish candidates
were too many for a strong German
county, he announced that he was going
to have the time of his life with the \$250
paid him to surrender his nomination, and
he certainly had it yesterday. Under the
severe anti-fat treatment his roll was hav-
ing a hard job to fill out the rubber band
last night, but he announces that it will
not bother him if he has to walk back to
Wilkesbarre. And after watching him get
rid of it yesterday it doesn't take much
imagination to see him doing the "turkey
trots" on the ties.

Has Red Hair and Blue Eyes.

He will shed no tears if he is forced to
return by the leg limited, because a more
cheerful little party never invaded our
fair city. Reporters who went down to
Wilkesbarre expecting to find a mild sort
of a lunatic following the stories of his
determination to "live like a millionaire
for a day" left him last night with the
opinion that he knows a thing or two, and
can think of both of them without under-
going a surgical operation. He is a cork-
ing story teller, has an inexhaustible wit
and unique philosophy and furnished all
the entertainment on the special train
that bore him to Broadway.Well above the average height, he does
not take up much room in any direction,
the double exception to this being his feet,
which are extremely ambitious, and en-
cased in bright yellow shoes yesterday,
looked like sugar cured hams. He has
hair red that it is almost pink and eye-
lashes and eyebrows to match. Tiny blue
eyes look out merrily from beneath the
lashes and a large, loose mouth filled with
assorted teeth before it takes a disposition
to laugh at all times. When he smiles he
looks like a good natured sunfish. He has
been everything, worked at everything,
and never had more than seven dollars
at one time in his life before. Post, paper-
banger, orator, politician, insurgent, ed-
itor, reporter, milkman, canvasser,
preacher and corn dealer are a few of the
professions he has dignified.

He's an Irishman.

"I'm especially proud of two things in
my career," he said yesterday. "I've been
in every jail south of the Mason-Dixon
line, and a few on the other side of it. I
never was arrested for anything more seri-
ous than failure to pay my board bills.
I'm proud to have been in jail because it
gave me the opportunity to meet the best
people—people I never could have met in
ordinary circumstances. My other reason
for being proud is that I am forty years
old, have been running for office every
year since I was seventeen and never have
been elected once. That's a record that
even William Jennings Bryan could be
proud of. I ran for Mayor and two thou-
sand persons flocked to the town hall to
hear my principal speech. Seven hun-
dred persons could not get in. I got seven
hundred votes. They were the ones who
did not hear me."McDevitt rattles on like this by the
hour with flashes of real wit every few
minutes that sets his hearers in a roar.
Everybody in Wilkesbarre knows at least
a dozen good stories about him and it
would take several pages to tell about his
actions and sayings. He is an ingrowing
Irishman and has no use for persons of
German extraction. The one disappoint-
ment he had to bear yesterday was the
fact that Mr. Charles M. Schwab, pres-
ident of the Bethlehem Steel Company,
was just ahead of his special train. The
idea of having a man with that name
leading him on the day of all days broke
him up completely and he offered the train
crew a bonus if they could arrange to
back the Schwab train on a siding.Few Presidential candidates or other
celebrities travelling through the same
territories have received greater ovations
than McDevitt did yesterday. The whole
countryside had been aroused by his pro-
fessed exploit, and every station found
large crowds assembled in the heavy snow-
storm; waiting to cheer the man who was
making the leap from prunes to terrapin in
one day. He made speeches at every stop,
and promised to bring every one back a
souvenir of his trip.

Five Orders of Grapefruit.

"Watch for me on the freight tracks
about Sunday," he would announce
at the close of every speech. "I'll throw
you a kiss if I don't have anything else,
and it doesn't look as if I was going to
have anything else."Business for blocks around the Hotel
Redington, in Wilkesbarre, where Mc-
Devitt makes his headquarters, practi-
cally was suspended for hours before the
special train bore McDevitt away to
that turn from which no money ever
returns. As befitting a millionaire, he
did not arise until eleven o'clock, but
hours before that time the corridors of
the hotel were jammed with men who
were anxious to find out how he had
passed the night before the big day.Dr. Sweeney, one of the leading physi-
cians in that part of Pennsylvania, was
besieged with inquiries as to McDevitt's
health. John Tee Lenahan, named by
McDevitt as his secretary, and a decided
brunette known only as "Smoke," who had
been engaged as valet, had to stand guard
outside McDevitt's room.When word reached the crowd that he
was coming down to breakfast hundreds
surged in from the street, and it was with
difficulty that he made his way to theGAVE \$20,000 TO
AID A BLIND MANFund Quickly Raised by Motor Acces-
sories Manufacturers' Associa-
tion for Peter Hussey.It took less than half a day to raise
a fund of \$20,000 for the benefit of Peter
Hussey, at the annual meeting of the Motor
Accessories Manufacturers' Association,
at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday. When
the project was broached it met with a
welcoming cheer from well known auto-
mobile men from all over the United
States, here for the automobile show, for
all of them knew Patrick Hussey, and
were glad of the chance to do him a ser-
vice.Fifteen years ago, when the bicycle craze
swept over the country, Patrick Hussey
was a trainer of bicycle racers and trick
cyclists and was known to everybody in-
terested in the sport, which means almost
everybody old enough to ride a "wheel."
He coached riders at all the big meets and
was a racer of note himself. When bicycles
began to drop out of public favor Patrick
Hussey kept up with the procession and
turned his attention to "horseless car-
riages." When these became reliable and
were called automobiles Hussey went out
as a salesman of motor and chassis parts,
work in which he found his immense ac-
quaintance of bicycling days of great ben-
efit.Suddenly Patrick Hussey's sight began
to fail, and four years ago he became to-
tally blind. He would not give up his
work, however, and with the aid of Mrs.
Hussey, who led him about his regular
territory, he kept up his routes and held
his trade until five or six months ago,
when he found it necessary to retire.One of his closest friends is a prominent
member of the Motor Accessories Manu-
facturers' Association, and he explained
the case of Patrick Hussey to his fellow
members yesterday. One man immedi-
ately proposed a fund and subscribed \$5,000
himself. Others were prompt in giving
smaller amounts, and soon the \$20,000
fund was complete. It will provide a com-
fortable fortune for Mr. and Mrs. Hussey
for the remainder of their lives. Mr. Hus-
sey is now fifty years old, of athletic
build and, except for his sight, in excellent
health.THE HERALD'S FASHION SUPPLEMENT
BRINGS RESULTS TO ADVERTISERSThe Herald's Fashion Supplement, profusely il-
lustrated and containing the very latest and most authori-
tative points from Paris, the centre of fashions, will
appear with to-morrow's (Sunday) paper.\$50,000 BACON
TO BE SEEN AT YALEIt is a Volume of Essays by Sir Fran-
cis and Was Presented to
Elizabethan Club.Bacon worth 150 times its weight in gold
is surely worth the saving. This is an
English brand valued at about \$40,000 a
pound tray, or nearer \$60,000 if the com-
modity is acquired by the avoidupois
standard. These were speculations sug-
gested even by bibliophiles at the Hoe sale
yesterday, when they learned definitely
that Mr. Alexander Smith Cochran, of this
city and Yonkers, had presented to the
Elizabethan Club of Yale University a
tiny volume of the first edition of the
essays of Sir Francis Bacon.This diminutive work weighs three and
one-fourth ounces avoidupois, and for it
Bernard Quaritch, the London dealer,
now in this city, paid \$1,500, or approxi-
mately \$3,750, at the Huth sale in the
British metropolis. It bears the date of
1597 and is of the highest literary interest,
as it bears the first reference in the Eng-
lish language to essays, as short sys-
tematic discourses have since been desig-
nated. The expression had before that
been used in French.The work was sold in 1833 in London for
£13 5s. or about \$65. When Mr. Quaritch
bought the volume after brisk competition
with his rivals the English said that
surely only an American would pay so
much for Bacon. There was much specu-
lation as to whom the volume would
eventually be sent.These essays in the thin little volume
had an effect upon the thought of the
world and upon science and literature
which still is felt, and the book was
viewed with much interest last Wednes-
day when it was on exhibition in the quar-
ters of the recently organized Elizabethan
Club in New Haven.Mr. Cochran also has given to the organ-
ization, as already announced in a special
cable dispatch to the HERALD from Lon-
don, four folios of Shakespeare and thirty-
nine plays in quartos, costing \$300,000. It is
said, and these also are on view. The
new club, of which Mr. Edward Keogh is
the librarian, also is acquiring some in-
teresting works at the dispersal of the
library of Robert Hoe, now being con-
ducted in this city. Its treasures include
first editions of Browning, Dickens and
other great masters of literature.MENINGITIS PLAGUE
REACHES OKLAHOMATen Deaths from Mysterious
Disease Reported and Quar-
antine Is Ordered.[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
MARIETTA, Okla., Friday.—The epidemic
of spinal meningitis which has been
spreading terror in northern and eastern
Texas has crossed the border, and six
deaths have resulted here from the dis-
ease since the first case was reported. Physi-
cians are mystified by the presence of the
malady here, and have called on the State
health authorities for aid, in the meantime
putting up a quarantine barrier against all
travellers from Texas, in the hope that
the spread of the disease may be checked.
Three deaths have been reported from
Atoka and one from McAlester.Lime is being spread in the streets and
city officials have issued bulletins of warn-
ing and instruction, requesting all resi-
dents to remain in their own homes as far
as possible.[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Friday.—Ten
deaths in all parts of the State since De-
cember 26 have marked the extent of the
spinal meningitis epidemic, according to
the State Health Officer, Dr. J. C. Mahr.
Four persons have died in Love county,
three in Bryan county and three in Carter
county, he has learned. Dr. Mahr denies
that the disease has reached McAlester,
where one death was reported yesterday.Five Deaths in Dallas, but Malady Is Be-
lieved Under Control.[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
DALLAS, Texas, Friday.—Although there
were five deaths from spinal meningitis
and eight new cases reported in Dallas to-
day, the health officers are encouraged in
their fight against the spread of the dis-
ease. Favorable reports from patients in
the hospitals have been received, and re-
ports from other parts of the affected dis-
trict indicate that the epidemic is not gain-
ing headway. Additional precautions for
enforcement of the quarantine against per-
sons exposed to the germs have been taken.
Ten cities and towns have established
quarantines against the Texas cities where
cases of meningitis have been reported.Shreveport, La., Establishes Quarantine
Against Texas Towns.[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
SHREVEPORT, La., Friday.—Against the
urgent protest of Dr. Oscar Dowling, pres-
ident of the State Board of Health, the
Municipal Commissioners of Shreveport to-
day passed an ordinance putting into effect
a rigid quarantine against all points in
Texas where cerebro-spinal meningitis is
known to be prevalent. All railroads
touching Shreveport are ordered to discon-
tinue selling tickets from such places to
Shreveport.the birth of children. Certain dates were
read to him, and he asserted that a child
born in that time might be born normal.
Dr. Peter W. Tomlinson, president of the
State Medical Board, also testified in re-
gard to Mrs. Bancroft's second child.Physicians, it was ascertained to-day,
also will testify for the defence. Among
them will be Dr. Barton C. Hirst, pro-
fessor of obstetrics in Pennsylvania Uni-
versity, and Professor Wilmer Krusen, of
Temple University, Philadelphia.
Although the court was closed to all, in-
cluding newspaper men, there was a small
curious crowd in the lobby and outside the
Court House. From certain friends
among the lawyers they managed at times
to glean a little information from attor-
neys who were permitted to enter the court
where the trial was being held. Now and
again there would be a whisper as to who
was testifying at that instant, and when
it became known that Mrs. Chadwick's
letter had been admitted there was great
curiosity to ascertain the contents of the
missive.

Mrs. Bancroft Again Absent.

Long before ten o'clock there was a
little throng of persons who wished to see
whether Mrs. Bancroft, Jr., would be in
court. They were doomed to disappoint-
ment, however, as she again was said to
be suffering from bronchial trouble. There
also was no member of the wealthy Du
Pont family in court. Their only repre-
sentatives there were a young man, who
is secretary to Mr. Alfred I. du Pont,
father of Mrs. Bancroft, Jr., and Mrs.
Bancroft's maid, Mrs. Bancroft, Sr.,
concealed her face by a thick veil, and two
other women who had been called in the
case followed her example. They were
driven to the Court House in the blind-
ing snowstorm shortly before ten o'clock in
a big automobile. All seemed extremely
nervous, especially Mr. Bancroft, Jr., who
kept close to his attorneys most of the
time he was waiting in the court room or
in the corridor.In the course of the session it was re-
vealed that witnesses had been asked
about the likeness of the child "Max
Heibler, Jr.," to Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft.
One nurse asserted that "Max's" looks
favored young Bancroft. On the other
hand, it is known that the contention of
the Bancroft family is that the boy re-
sembles Mr. Heibler. Dr. Rumford said
the child looked like his mother.Somehow or other, through some mys-
terious source, it was learned that Mrs.
Bancroft, Sr., had been called to the
stand, and the little throng in the dingy
hall below immediately waited to find
out whether they could learn anything the
older woman had to say about her daugh-
ter-in-law.That Mrs. Bancroft, Sr., was extremely
nervous when she left the building was
apparent, even although no one could
peer through her thick veil. There was a
hushed silence in the court when Mrs.
Bancroft told how she had followed her
daughter to New York city. It was then
that she said Mrs. Bancroft, Jr., was
about to speed to Germany. And al-
though there were no members of the Du
Pont family in the court room there were
present those who appeared exceedingly
interested in the result of the great di-
vorce case, in which two families with
many millions are pitted against each
other.There was a hint in the Court House
to-day that Mrs. Bancroft, Jr., might
spring a surprise on the plaintiff's law-
yers. That surprise was understood to be
the placing of Max Heibler on the stand.
At present it is thought that he is
in Munich, but as nobody could be
found who had heard from him, the
rumor spread that there was a possi-
bility of the musician going on the stand
in behalf of Mrs. Bancroft, Jr.By several persons who understood Ger-
man it was said that the letters in con-
tention are of the most affectionate kind.
They are understood to be couched in en-
dearing terms, the translation of which
has been extremely difficult. After the
court adjourned, at ten minutes to five
o'clock this afternoon, one of the clerks
was busy wrapping up the missives and
placing them in a suit case. Young Ban-
croft conducted Mr. Terry, the lawyer who
is assisting the chief Bancroft counsel, J.
Harvey Whitman, of Wilmington, to the
Pennsylvania station. Mr. Bancroft talked
eagerly for more than half an hour with
the New York attorney, Mrs. Bancroft's
lawyer is T. Bayard Heisel, of Wilming-
ton, who is assisted by Mr. Paxson Deeter,
of Philadelphia.A demurrer, based on alleged insuffi-
ciency of law, has been filed in the coun-
ty suit brought by Mrs. Bancroft, Jr., against
her husband.Mr. Joseph Conrad has written a new
novel, "Chance," especially for the Sunday
NEW YORK HERALD, which will pub-
lish the first instalment on January 21.
See to-morrow's SUNDAY HERALD for
an article about this master of romance
and his work.